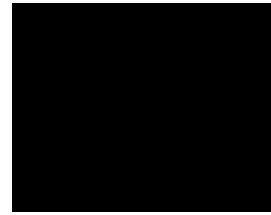


## Parish Councils Coordination Group

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Ms S Richards  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Mr D Savage  
Chair - PCCG



14th October 16

Dear Ms Richards,

We the Parish Council Coordination Group (PCCG) are taking this opportunity to write to you, to set out our concerns and issues in being effectively engaged and consulted by National Grid's North West Coast Connection Project (NWCCP).

NWCCP have decided to go ahead with plans for a new connection that will take a route corridor, which is made up of two parts:

- a route going north from Moorside to a point on the existing grid network at Harker substation, near Carlisle and;
- a route going south from Moorside Nuclear Station across the Furness peninsula then under Morecambe Bay to connect in at a point on the existing grid network at Middleton substation near Heysham in Lancashire.

The above Route Corridor was decided as a result of the 2014 Consultation. National Grid is now in the process of preparing for the final and formal Consultation.

During the previous stages of consultation, Parish Councils were not included in the process of formal consultation by what is recognised as the Stakeholder Reference Group and its associated bodies. At the request of a number of Parish Councils, held direct meetings with National Grid, but they all reported a lack of substantive engagement or a willingness to discuss the impacts and issues which many communities are facing with the NWCCP proposals. The frustration and lack of involvement in the consultation, led to the creation of the Parish Council Coordination Group (PCCG) in August 2016, which is, for the first time, is made up primarily of Parish Councils that have fundamental concerns relating to the Southern Corridor Route.

The primary aims of this Group are to:

- **Campaign against National Grid Plan to build large scale pylons within the current proposed route corridor**
- **Create a stronger voice within the consultation process**
- **Communicate and motivate constituents to engage with the National Grid plans and express their views**

## Parish Councils Coordination Group

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As Parish Councils are now seeking to assert our statutory right under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008, to be consulted. We have to date faced exclusion from the process to the point that National Grid stated to Parish Councils that we have no statutory right to be consulted.

As we move forward into the final stage of the planning process, Parish Councils are expecting the consultation process to be transformed to one where we are actively consulted.

By setting out the position of Parish Councils have faced, it is imperative that the Planning Inspectorate understand our view of National Grids behaviour, their approach and attempts to frustrate Parish Councils from discharging their elected duty, has been challenging to say the least.

Yours faithfully,

David Savage

Chair – Parish Councils Coordination Group

## Parish Councils Coordination Group

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Cc:

<b>Co-ordination Group Parish Councils</b>	Aldingham Askam and Ireleth Blawith and Subberthwaite Bootle Drigg and Carleton Duddon Gosforth and Ponsonby Kirkby - Ireleth Muncaster Millom Town Council Millom Without Seascale Ulpha Waberthwaite Whicham	<b>Stakeholder Groups</b>	Mr R. Leafe, Lake District National Parks Mr D.Hunt, Lake District National Parks Dr K. Willshaw, Friends of the Lake District Mr G. Barron, Secretary – Power Without Pylons
<b>M.Ps</b>	Mr J. Reed Mr J. Woodcock	<b>Customers of National Grid</b>	Mr. E. Heiskanen, Deputy CEO, NuGen Mr J. Morgan, Electricity NorthWest
<b>Copeland Borough Council</b>	Mr M. Starkie, Mayor Ms P. Graham, MD, CBC Mr S. Smith, Planning Lead Mr G. Scurrah, CBC		
<b>Cumbria County Council</b>	Ms D. Wood, CEO Mr G. Kenyon, Lead Planning Officer Mr K. Hitchen, County Councillor		